

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

245

and genera! character, laudatory of William, abusive of his allies, particularly the Princes of the Empire, but conveying either no clear impression at all, or a very unfair one.

Kemble goes on to say that Macaulay too much neglected German archives and German histories*. He then takes as his text a long passage at the beginning of Macaulay's nineteenth chapter, in which the author endeavours to set forth William's foreign policy, dealing in particular with the affairs of the year 1692 and the difficulties experienced by William in keeping the coalition against France together. ' Two of the allied powers, and two only, were hearty in the common cause/ England and Holland, both of which, though * torn by internal factions ? and

separated from each other by mutual jealousies and anti-pathies . . . were fully resolved not to submit to French domination. . . . With those two communities, unhappily, other states had little sympathy. Indeed those two communities were regarded by other states as rich, plain-dealing, generous dupes are regarded by needy sharpers. England and Holland were wealthy; and they were zealous. Their wealth excited the cupidity of the whole alliance ; and to that wealth their zeal was the key. They were persecuted with sordid importunity by all their confederates, from C^sar, who, in the pride of his solitary dignity, would not honour King William with the title of

Majesty, down to
the smallest Margrave who could see his
whole principal-
ity from the cracked windows of the mean and
ruinous old
house which he called his palace. It was not
enough that
England and Holland furnished much more
than their
contingents to the war by land, and bore
unassisted the
whole charge of the war by sea. They were
beset by a crowd
of illustrious mendicants, some rude, some
obsequious, but
all indefatigable and insatiable. One prince
came mumping
to them annually with a lamentable story
about his dis-
tresses. A more sturdy beggar threatened
to join the